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HAGERMAN FAUNA SITES NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK
INTERIM MANAGEMENT PLAN

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HAGERMAN FAUNA SITES NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK
INTERIM MANAGEMENT PLANI. BACKGROUNDLocation:

The 3,875 acre Hagerman Fauna Sites National Natural Landmark was designated in May 1975. It is located along the west side of the Snake River Canyon due west of the town of Hagerman, Idaho. Hagerman is about a two hour drive southeast from Boise on Interstate 84 and State Highway 30. Access from the town of Hagerman to the fauna sites is by paved and graveled county roads.

Site Significance:

The Hagerman Fauna Sites have an international reputation among paleontologists as the most significant and important location of Upper Pliocene terrestrial fossils in the world. The fossil sites are distributed vertically through a 500 foot stratigraphic section of the Glens Ferry Formation; this distribution makes them of great stratigraphic value.

It is important to realize that the preservation of fossils in the geologic record is rare and imperfect. Many animals are considered to have existed based on the evidence of only a few bones or bone fragments; some animals are only known to have existed in one locality due to this sort of evidence.

Hagerman is a rare and valuable resource from which much has been learned and from which much remains to be learned. It is essential that Hagerman be protected to preserve the story of the natural history of this area during the Pliocene epoch.

Historic and current use of the designated and immediately adjacent area:

Grazing is the oldest current commodity use of this area. Grazing on most of the adjacent plateau areas ended in about 1970 due to transfer of large blocks of land to private farming interests under the Desert Land Entry Act of March 3, 1877. Current use of the bulk of adjacent lands continues to be farming. Two pump stations were built within the area that was eventually included in the designated fauna sites to provide water to the farms on the plateau above. One of the pump stations with associated pipelines is located in a state owned section wholly contained within the designated area.

Hunting, fishing and motorcycle riding are the most common recreation activities in the area with motorcycle use the most significant from a BLM management perspective. A "Restricted Vehicle Use Closure Order"

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WAGNER TOWN SITE NATIONAL MONUMENT
MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. Introduction

Location

The 1,115 acre Wagner Town Site National Monument was designated in May 1972. It is located along the west side of the Snake River Canyon the west of the town of Hagerman, Idaho. Hagerman is about a two hour drive southeast from Boise on Interstate 84 and State Highway 10. Access from the town of Hagerman to the town site is by paved and gravelled county roads.

Site Description

The Hagerman Fossil Beds have an international reputation as a paleontological site of great significance and importance. Location of Upper Pleistocene vertebrate fossils in the beds. The fossil sites are distributed vertically through a 100 foot stratigraphic section of the Hagerman Fossil Beds. This distribution makes them of great stratigraphic value.

It is important to realize that the preservation of fossils in the geological record is rare and exceptional. Many mammals are considered to have existed here at the same time as only a few bones or more fragmentary foot prints are only known to have existed in the locality due to this type of evidence.

Hagerman is a rare and valuable resource from which much has been learned and from which much remains to be learned. It is essential that Hagerman be protected to preserve the story of our natural history of this area during the Pleistocene epoch.

Historic and current use of the designated and immediately adjacent areas

Grading of the Hagerman Fossil Beds essentially ended in 1972. During the most of the adjacent Hagerman area about 1970 to 1972 the land was largely cleared of trees to provide for the Hagerman Fossil Beds. Hagerman was at the time of adjacent land. The most significant was the Hagerman Fossil Beds. This was previously located in the designated area. The Hagerman Fossil Beds were at the time of the present show. One of the most significant with respect to the Hagerman Fossil Beds is a large area which is currently within the designated area.

Grading, clearing and other activities which are now being resumed in the area with respect to the most significant area. This management plan is a part of the Hagerman Fossil Beds.

approved by the Idaho State Director on August 11, 1978 was published in the Federal Register on September 27, 1978. This order, which is still in effect, limits motorized vehicle use to designated roads and trails. Designations have not changed since the original order

Effective May 29, 1979, the BLM and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation entered into a cooperative management agreement in which the Bureau took on the responsibilities of managing ORV use and protecting archaeological and paleontological values in the state section 16, T. 7 S. R. 15 E.

While the area was designated a National Natural Landmark in May of 1975, it was never registered due to a concern on the part of the Idaho Parks Department and the Bureau that registration would show a significant interest on the part of the existing management agencies to protect resource values. This interest was considered likely to interfere with acquisition by the National Park Service (NPS); at that time both agencies favored NPS acquisition of the area as a National Monument. The area is low in priority for NPS acquisition and management and it is not likely that national monument designation will occur.

II. THE PROBLEM

There is a primary and a secondary problem that must be addressed at Hagerman. The first is an erosion problem. The second is a trespass problem that partially relates to the first.

Approximately 30 sites within the Hagerman Fauna Sites have been identified from aerial photos and on-the-ground inspections where concentrated surface water runoff is contributing to accelerated soil erosion. Another area has been found where concentrated subsurface flows have created gullies below the points where they surface. There is also an area where massive soil slumping has occurred.

Recreational motorcycle use in the area contributes to the erosion problem in a relatively minor fashion in most areas of the landmark. The vast majority of motorcycle use is concentrated in the south end of the designated area and adjacent lands. Dr. John White feels that there are no "significant" conflicts with fossil resources in the ORV use of this southernmost area. Three problem areas exist within the unit boundaries - a hill climb area at the "Horse Quarry" site (state land), a hill climb area above Yahoo Creek on the south boundary of the unit and an area near "Beer Nob" and the massive slumping (mentioned above) where new unauthorized trails are developing joining three designated trail segments. Outside of these "problem" areas use is mostly confined to the trail system.

Another source of erosion arises from poor construction and maintenance of the authorized roads from the rim to the two pump stations. The roads were not built and have not been maintained to assure proper drainage. In one recent instance, fill to repair a washout was obtained by scalping some undisturbed ground adjacent to the road - simultaneously destroying a portion of a designated motorcycle trail.

approved by the Idaho State Director on August 11, 1978 was published in the Federal Register on September 17, 1978. This order, which is still in effect, limits motorized vehicle use to designated roads and trails. Designations have not changed since the original order.

Effective May 19, 1979, the BLM and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation entered into a cooperative management agreement in which the Bureau took on the responsibility of managing ORV use and protecting archeological and paleontological values in the state section 19, T. 1. S. 1. E. 1. E.

While the area was designated a National Natural Landmark in May of 1979, it was never registered due to a concern on the part of the Idaho Parks Department and the Bureau that registration would show a significant interest on the part of the existing management agencies to protect resource values. This interest was considered likely to interfere with acquisition by the National Park Service (NPS); the fact that both agencies favored NPS acquisition of the area as a National Monument. The area is low in priority for NPS acquisition and management and it is not likely that national monument designation will occur.

II. THE PROBLEM

There is a primary and a secondary problem that must be addressed in the area. The first is a resource problem. The second is a trespass problem that partially relates to the first.

Approximately 10 miles within the National Forest there have been identified three major roads and an increased inspection where concentrated motor vehicle use tends to concentrate in designated trails. Another area has been found where concentrated motor vehicle use tends to concentrate in designated trails. There is also an area where motor vehicle use tends to concentrate in designated trails.

National Monument area is the area contiguous to the section 19, T. 1. S. 1. E. 1. E. area. The problem is a relatively minor problem in most areas of the monument. The area majority of motor vehicle use is concentrated in the south end of the designated area and adjacent lands. Dr. John White feels that there are no "significant" conflicts with federal resources in the ORV use of this area. Three problem areas exist within the unit boundaries - a hill climb area at the "Horse Quarry" site (located near a hill climb area above Lake Creek on the south boundary of the unit and an area near "Lost Hole" and the massive slumping (mentioned above) where new underground trails are developing joining these designated trails. Details of these "problem" areas are in detail outlined in the report.

Another source of motor vehicle use from poor connection and maintenance of the authorized roads from the top of the trap station. The roads were not built and have not been maintained to assure proper drainage. In one recent instance, (1) in regard to a vehicle was obtained by acquiring some undisturbed ground adjacent to the road - simultaneously destroying a portion of a designated motor vehicle trail.

Numerous examples of trespass are apparent along the boundary of the designated landmark. Trespass includes fences and buried water pipes off line, rubble piles, maintenance roads on public land, pipe storage, trash, pesticide cans and a gutted mobile home.

III. OBJECTIVES OF INTERIM MANAGEMENT

The overall objective of this management plan is to define the extent and the specific causes of the water and ORV erosion problem, to identify all trespass violations and to develop mitigation for these problems. This plan should also serve as a statement of BLM management's intent to protect the area during further development of this interim plan and indefinitely into the future as mitigation and monitoring are developed and continue.

IV. MITIGATION PLAN AND COSTS

A. Trespass

1. Background - A cadastral survey of the boundary of the designated area has now been completed. This survey has enabled us to identify trespass problems along the boundary. Trespass identified includes agricultural occupancy in the form of pipe storage, trash, etc. and right-of-way trespass of roads, fences, and pipelines. This includes 7.8 acres of agricultural crop production, 1.5 miles of fences, 2.75 miles of pipelines, and 5.75 miles of roads. Trespass notices have been sent to the parties involved.
2. Short-Term Mitigation - It is anticipated that with adequate personnel and funding the trespass cases should be resolved in FY-1985 and FY-1986. Resolution of the cases would include either stopping the trespass by removing all of the improvements and having the private parties confine all of their activities to their private land or authorization of some of the existing improvements. Each case will be evaluated separately and a resolution reached based on resource damage occurring and the special circumstances involved. The criteria used will be the same for each case, therefore, resolution of the trespass cases should be comparable from one case to the next.

Anticipated costs for FY-1985 and FY-1986 to resolve the trespass situation is 6 workmonths at \$2,600 per month for a total of \$15,600.

3. Long-Term Mitigation - After all trespass has been resolved, it is anticipated that it will be necessary to periodically check the subject area to be sure no new trespass occurs (see trespass files numbered ID-01-1153, 1154, 1155, 1156, 1157, 1158, 6026).

B. Water Caused Erosion

1. Background - Water Resource Investigations Report 84-4137 entitled "Evaluation of Hydrologic Processes Affecting Soil Movement in the Hagerman, Idaho" was released by the USGS in

July, 1984, identifying 33 sites where erosion is occurring. A perched aquifer created by seepage losses from 2 irrigation canals was identified in this report as the source of springs and seeps along the slope of the canyon. Corrective measures were suggested to control both ground water and surface runoff problems.

Two meetings were held with irrigators using the Bell Rapids canal system. At the first meeting on August 13, 1984, irrigators were informed of public concern about erosion problems and BLM's intention to see that corrective measures are taken. No specific corrective actions were discussed at this meeting. The second meeting, on August 27, 1984, was an on-site inspection of the problem area.

A letter was sent August 10, 1984 to the irrigators requesting that they take measures to correct erosion problems. The Field Solicitors Office emphasized the point that BLM should not tell users what measures to take, but to leave this up to them. For this reason no plans for water-collection systems or other corrective measures were developed by the BLM. BLM Division of Operations personnel did an on-site inspection and began formulating ideas for corrective actions.

2. Short-Term Mitigation (FY-85 and FY-86) -

Action	Responsible Party/Cost		Completion Date
	BLM	User	
a) Corrective measures to stop canal seepage.		X	4/1/85 or prior to irrigation season in 1985.
b) Stabilize disturbed soils at major slump site and in all drainage where needed.	X	X	4/1/85
c) Corrective measures to control surface runoff on roads to pump stations.		X	12/31/84
d) Stop flushing pipelines into canyon.		X	Immediately
e) Monitor soil movement at major slump.	\$7,000 (1 WM/yr)		FY-85 & FY-86
f) Monitor water flow at springs & in drainages where needed. Install small dams & water meters.	X		4/1/85

July, 1984, identifying it as a water station in operation. A
 person called advised by telephone from a telephone
 number was identified in this report as the source of the
 and asked about the status of the station. Corrective measures
 were suggested to control both ground water and surface runoff
 problems.

The meetings were held with investigators using the Ball
 Register (see Appendix). At the first meeting on August 12, 1984,
 investigators were informed of public concern about station
 problems and EPA's intention to see that corrective measures are
 taken. No specific corrective action was discussed at this
 meeting. The second meeting, on August 17, 1984, was an on-site
 inspection of the problem area.

A letter was sent August 19, 1984 to the investigators
 requesting that they take measures to correct station problems.
 The Field Office emphasized the point that EPA should
 not tell them what measures to take, but to leave this up to
 them. For this reason no plans for water-collection systems or
 other corrective measures were developed by the EPA. EPA
 Division of Operations personnel did an on-site inspection and
 began collecting data for corrective actions.

Summary of Action (FY-85 and FY-86) -

Completion Date	Responsible Party/Unit		Action
	PLN	Unit	
4/1/85 or prior to installation active in 1985	X		a) Corrective measures to stop land leakage.
4/1/85	X	X	b) Facilities damaged due to water leakage were repaired and all leakage water needed.
11/1/84	X		c) Corrective measures to control surface runoff on roads to pump stations.
Immediate	X		d) Stop floating pipelines into channels.
FY-85 & FY-86		(1) W/PLN	e) Station well measured at water pump.
4/1/85	X		f) Monitor water flow at station & in channels where needed. Install well with a water meter.

<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible Party/Cost</u>		<u>Completion Date</u>
	<u>BLM</u>	<u>User</u>	
g) Install sediment collecting dams in drainages where needed	X		4/1/85
h) Establish collection ponds on canyon rim where appropriate.	X	X	4/1/85

3. Long-Term Mitigation (FY-87 on) -

<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsibility/Costs</u>
a) Monitor area annually.	BLM (\$7,000/yr)
b) Pursue possible land exchanges to facilitate management of the area.	BLM - User

C. ORV Caused Erosion

1. Background - Erosion caused by ORV use on designated roads and most trails does not appear to be a problem. However, a paleontological survey, prepared by Gregory D. Cunningham of the Idaho Museum of National History, was submitted on January 1, 1984. The report, titled Hagerman Fauna Area Paleontological Survey identifies the area of "Beer Nob" as being most threatened by ORV use. Quoting from the conclusion of this report:

"A much greater danger to paleontologic resources occur in area Z3. ORV activity is seriously damaging several important localities, including 81004, 83030, and 80005. It is recommended that ORV use be discontinued in section 28 immediately to prevent further damage. It is apparent there is considerable ORV use off of designated trails within the Landmark, thus presenting a potential threat to many localities. It is further recommended that ORV use within the Landmark cease to assure that such damage to other significant localities will not occur."

(See appendices for a copy of the report including maps.)

Because of the closure recommendations of this report a meeting was held in Twin Falls in June of 1984 to discuss the problem.

A team of ORV users was recruited to assist the resource area staff in studying the ORV based problem and in coming up with a recommendation or recommendations for mitigation that

Occupation Data	Responsible Party	Action
4/1/82	X	to conduct research concerning area 1a designated when needed
4/1/82	X	to conduct an investigation concerning area 1a where appropriate

1. Investigate the area of "Best Job" as being used

Responsible Party	Action
ALN (2), 000/yr	to monitor area annually
ALN - Year	to provide possible land exchange to facilitate management of the area

C. NEW County Location

1. Investigation - Location of area by NEW use on designated roads and
area trails does not appear to be a problem. However,
historical survey, prepared by Gregory D. Cunningham at the
State Museum of Natural History, was submitted on January 1,
1982. The report, titled "Historical Survey of the area of
"Best Job" as being used. Quoting from the conclusion of this
report:

"A small, isolated, danger to paleontological resources occurs in
area 1a. NEW activity is seriously damaging several
important localities. Located 8100', 8200' and 8300'.
It is recommended that NEW use be discontinued in section
1a. Specifically to prevent further damage. It is apparent
that it is probable NEW use will be discontinued in section
1a. Within the last year, there has been a potential threat to
any localities. It is further recommended that NEW use
within the landmark design to ensure that such damage to
other significant localities will not occur."

Then appendants for a copy of the report including maps.

Because of the classic recommendations of this report a
meeting was held in June 1982 in June of 1982 to discuss the
problem.

A team of NEW users was recruited to assist the resource
team staff in carrying out the NEW based problem and in coming up
with a recommendation for mitigation for mitigation that

would effectively protect the fossils while, hopefully, allowing continued ORV use of the area. It was explained that sign vandalism, ORV use off designated trails and damage to fossils could lead to eventual closure of the area and that only BLM/user cooperation would protect ORV user interests in the area.

The study team consists of the following persons:

John Hays	Boise District BLM
Ted Weasma	Boise District BLM
Dana Danzer	Boise District BLM
Effie Schultsmeier	Boise District BLM
Other staff as needed	Boise District BLM
Scott Standley	Idaho Trail Machine Assoc.
Zeke Miller	Magic Valley Trail Machine Assoc.
Randy Rancaster	Representing unaffiliated ORV users
Larry Stevens	Idaho State Parks

2. Short-Term Mitigation - Any mitigation of ORV caused problems requires a bureau commitment to providing law enforcement. Some ORV users who have been using the area have ignored and vandalized signing. Illegal trails have developed; illegal organized events have been held. Annual work plans have programmed inadequate funding to effectively manage the site. The mitigation plan must include the following actions.

<u>Action</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
a) Continue the work of the ORV use study team.	2 WM or \$5,200	FY-1985
b) Hire a seasonal ORV ranger to spend four months patrolling Hagerman (needed even if above study results in closure).	4 WM or \$10,400	Annually from FY-1985
c) Revamp signing program including planning, signs, installation and maintenance (this item will be less costly if above study results in closure).	\$3,200	FY-1985 annual maintenance thereafter

3. Long-Term Mitigation - If the ORV use study team finds a way to avoid closure of Hagerman, its work will continue on to include ORV activity planning under the Jarbidge RMP for the area of Hagerman as well as the resource area as a whole. Such planning will probably include vegetational rehabilitation of damaged areas, interpretive planning and joint BLM/user patrols or patrols by county sheriff deputies under a formal law enforcement agreement. This activity planning will begin after the RMP (currently in development) is finalized in FY-85. Regardless of whether or not Hagerman is closed to ORV use off road enforcement and signing will be necessary to protect the area indefinitely.

D. Miscellaneous Actions

Appropriate action should be taken by the National Park Service, the BLM and the State of Idaho to register the designated area (it is unlikely that the area will ever be designated a National Monument and be transferred to the National Park Service).

Exchange of lands with private farm owners will be considered in the Jarbidge planning process to create a buffer between the rim and the farms.

Until the BLM can take concrete steps to mitigate damages, the Boise District should pay close attention to any and all activities and proposed actions that could effect the designated area. No actions should be allowed which would create new problems or aggravate existing problems.

V. CONCLUSION

It must be remembered by all who become involved in dealing with the problems in Hagerman that they are inter-related and need to be worked on in a coordinated effort. A quick fix will not work in Hagerman. The plan will need annual revision for at least the next two or three years. BLM management must provide adequate funding or the public and the scientific community will lose priceless and irreplaceable resources.

Appropriate action should be taken by the National Park Service, the BLM and the State of Idaho to register the designated areas (1) as units of the system and (2) as designated a National Monument and be transferred to the National Park Service.

Exchange of lands with private land owners will be considered in the bridge planning process to create a buffer between the rim and the town.

While the BLM can take concrete steps to mitigate damage, the State District should pay close attention to any and all activities and proposed actions that could affect the designated area. No action should be allowed which would create new problems or aggravate existing problems.

VI. CONCLUSION

It must be recognized by all who become involved in dealing with the problems in Hagaman that they are inter-related and need to be worked on in a coordinated effort. A quick fix will not work in Hagaman. The plan will need several revisions for at least the next two or three years. BLM management must provide adequate funding to the public and the scientific community will have programs and interpretive resources.

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